

## **WOLF ON BENGHAZI ATTACK – TIMELINE OF EVENTS:**

**September 11, 2012** – Attack occurs.

**September 25, 2012** – Rep. Frank Wolf (R-VA) writes letter to President Obama expressing concern about the level of intelligence and reaction from the Obama administration leading up to and following the attack. In addition to Wolf, the letter was signed by eight House members: Rep. Howard P. "Buck" McKeon (R-CA), Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee; Rep. Ileana Ros Lehtinen (R-FL), Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee; Rep. Mike Rogers (R-MI) Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence; Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX), Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee; Rep. Hal Rogers (R-KY), Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee; and Reps. C.W. Bill Young (R-FL) and Kay Granger (R-TX), respectively Chairmen of the Appropriations Subcommittees on Defense and Foreign Operations. PRESS RELEASE WITH LETTER: <http://wolf.house.gov/press-releases/wolf-demands-answers-from-president-surrounding-terrorist-attack-in-libya-on-911-anniversary/>

**November 13, 2012** – In letter to Speaker Boehner, Wolf first calls for the establishment of a select committee to investigate the attack and the subsequent revelations that followed. Wolf suggested the committee should be comprised of the chairmen and ranking members of the committees on Intelligence, Foreign Affairs, Armed Services, Judiciary and Government Reform and Oversight, with other members appointed by House leaders based on expertise. A bicameral select committee would prevent overlap of investigations and hearings, and would have full subpoena authority, he said. PRESS RELEASE WITH LETTER: <http://wolf.house.gov/press-releases/wolf-calls-for-establishment-of-select-committee-to-investigate-benghazi-attack/>

**December 4, 2012** – Wolf formally introduces resolution to create a House Select Committee on the Terrorist Attack in Benghazi, with 14 members signed on as original cosponsors: Reps. Paul Broun (R-GA), John Campbell (R-CA), Joe Wilson (R-SC), Louie Gohmert (R-TX), John Abney Culberson (R-TX), Robert Aderholt (R-AL), Chip Cravaack (R-MN), Mo Brooks (R-AL), Robert Wittman (R-VA), Jeff Duncan (R-SC), Tim Griffin (R-AR), Patrick Meehan (R-PA), Bill Posey (R-FL) and Steve King (R-IA). The Heritage Foundation also called for a select committee, and former Sen. Fred Thomson, who served as counsel on the Watergate Select Committee, echoed Wolf's sentiments in an op-ed the week prior. "The seriousness of the [Benghazi attack and administrations response] calls for a select committee that is given a specific mandate, a budget and a cut-off date that can be adjusted if it is agreed upon," Thompson wrote. "It needs to be comprised of members of both parties who have been selected by their leadership because of their proven integrity, reputation for fairness, and expertise in a given area." PRESS RELEASE: <http://wolf.house.gov/press-releases/wolf-introduces-resolution-to-create-house-select-committee-on-terrorist-attack-in-benghazi/>

**December 11, 2012** – Wolf sends a letter to then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton demanding that all U.S. aid to Tunisia be cut off because the African nation wouldn't allow the FBI to interview Ali Harzi, the only know-held suspect in the Benghazi attack at the time. PRESS RELEASE: <http://wolf.house.gov/press-releases/wolf-cut-off-us-aid-to-tunisia-in-light-of-obstructing-benghazi-investigation/>

**December 12, 2012** – Wolf speaks on the House floor reiterating his demand that U.S. aid to Tunisia be cut off because they have blocked the FBI from interviewing Harzi. PRESS RELEASE AND TRANSCRIPT OF FLOOR SPEECH: <http://wolf.house.gov/press-releases/wolf-floor-statement-on-ending-us-aid-to-tunisia-due-to-obstruction-of-benghazi-investigation/>

**January 8, 2013** – Harzi is released from custody. Wolf releases statement expressing disappointment, reiterating fact that U.S. has given more than \$320 million in aid to Tunisia since 2011, and again calling for the need for a select committee on Benghazi. PRESS RELEASE WITH STATEMENT: <http://wolf.house.gov/index.cfm?sectionid=34&itemid=2107>

**January 18, 2013** – Four months since the attack, Wolf reintroduces legislation to create the select committee for the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress, H. Res. 36. The bill has 20 original cosponsors at this point: Reps. Lou Barletta (R-PA), Robert Aderholt (R-AL), Trent Franks (R-AZ), Randy Weber (R-TX), Bill Posey (R-FL), Rob Wittman (R-VA), Griffin (R-AR), Aaron Schock (R-IL), Patrick Meehan (R-PA), Steve King (R-IA), John Duncan (R-TN), Pete Olson (R-TX), Bill Johnson (R-OH), Joe Wilson (R-SC), Mo Brooks (R-AL), Jim Gerlach (R-PA), Kevin Brady (R-TX), David McKinley (R-WV), Jim Jordan (R-OH) and Bill Flores (R-TX). PRESS RELEASE: <http://wolf.house.gov/index.cfm?sectionid=34&itemid=2115>

**January 23, 2013** – Wolf again takes to House floor to speak in-depth about attack and reiterate need for a select committee. Wolf described his call to the State Department to cut off funding to Tunisia, and the response from USAID that Tunisian officials were fully cooperating with State Department officials. Yet weeks later, Harzi was released. “Today, I again wrote [USAID](#), expressing my disappointment that the administrator himself could not respond directly to a Member of Congress who serves on the committee of jurisdiction,” Wolf said during his speech. “And further, pointing out what should be obvious—the Tunisian government did not cooperate. The Tunisian government never seriously thought the aid, precious taxpayer money, was in jeopardy. The Tunisian government has not faced a single consequence for undermining U.S. national security.” PRESS RELEASE AND TRANSCRIPT OF FLOOR SPEECH: <http://wolf.house.gov/press-releases/wolf-takes-to-house-floor-to-call-for-house-select-committee-to-investigate-terrorist-attack-in-benghazi/>

**January 23, 2013** – Meanwhile, Clinton testifies before the House and Senate.

**February 7, 2013** – Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta testifies before the Senate Armed Services Committee.

**February 12, 2013** – The Hill publishes an Op-Ed by Wolf, “Preventing Future Attacks on Foreign Service Personnel,” adapted from his January 23 floor speech and criticizing the lack of information that resulted in testimony from Clinton and Panetta: “Secretary of State Hillary Clinton’s six hours of testimony hardly yielded more answers,” Wolf wrote. “The media by and large focused on offensively irrelevant aspects of Clinton’s testimony. As the *Washington Post* reported, ‘Wearing an emerald green jacket and geek girl glasses, Hillary engrossed her fans, who love her when she talks tough (and lawyerly). It was, at its core, terrific political theater.’ At least in Secretary Panetta’s testimony we learned that the president was consulted. But just one time? One time: A U.S. embassy is under attack, and the president of the United States is consulted only one time?” OP-ED FROM THEHILL.COM: <http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/foreign-policy/282591-preventing-future-attacks-on-foreign-service-personnel>

**March 1, 2013** – Wolf sends a letter to Secretary of State John Kerry describing reports of as many as 30 more American personnel, including State Department employees, CIA personnel and government contractors who may have been wounded in the attack. In the letter, he requests assistance in gaining access to these individuals who are presently at Walter Reed in order to express gratitude and gain insight about what happened the day of the attack. PDF OF LETTER: [http://wolf.house.gov/uploads/Kerry\\_Benghazi\\_March1.pdf](http://wolf.house.gov/uploads/Kerry_Benghazi_March1.pdf)

**March 5, 2013** – Wolf appears on Fox News programs discussing the breaking news about more potential victims of the Benghazi attack, including American personnel who are still recovering at Walter Reed Hospital six months after the attack. Up until now, this news had not come out. Once again, he pushes for a select committee to get to the bottom of what happened that day. Meanwhile, Wolf’s legislation to create a select committee on Benghazi is approaching 50 cosponsors. BILL SUMMARY AND STATUS: <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/thomas>